

Top Secret 251

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~~NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE~~
 Saturday June 5, 1976 CI NIDC 76-132C

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
 Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

DIA review(s) completed.

State Dept. review
 completed

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Saturday June 5, 1976.

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The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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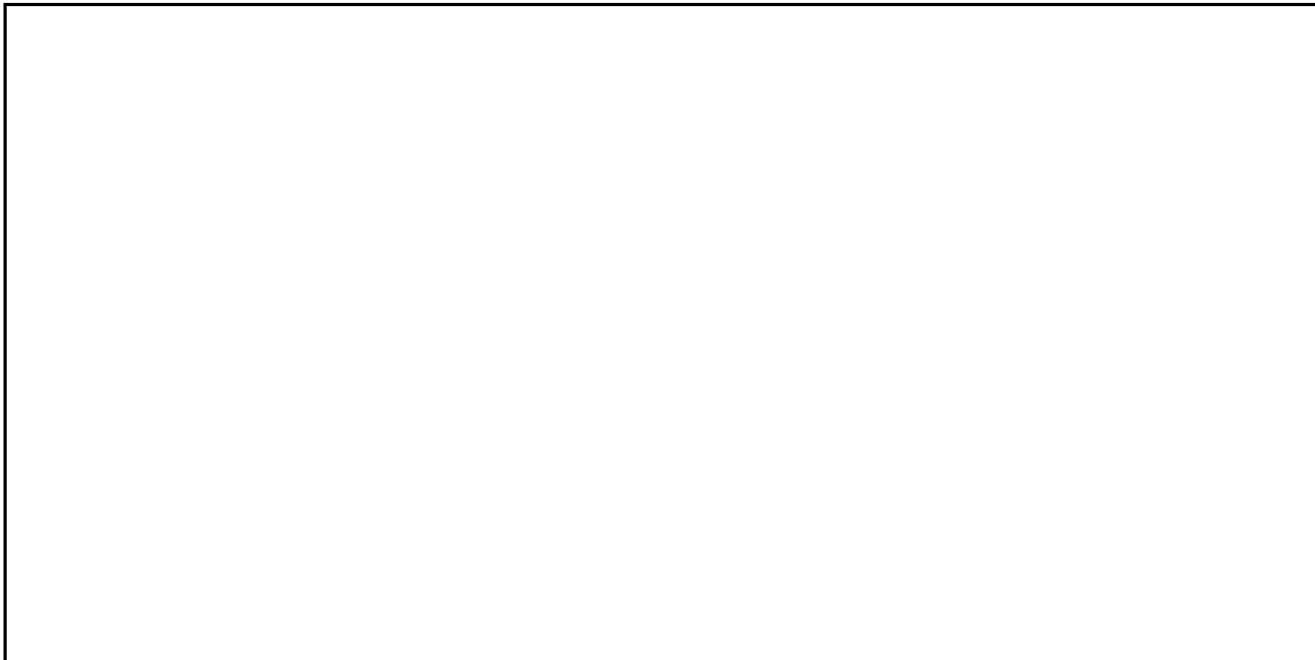
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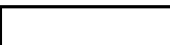
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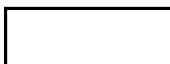


USSR


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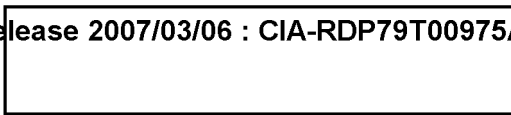
 Shortages of certain foods are spreading and becoming more severe in the USSR. Supplies of bread remain adequate, but the lack of meat and other livestock products may have led to some civil unrest.

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 The availability of spring vegetables should soon ease the overall food situation, although meat shortages will increase. Meat processing in April was down 22 percent from a year ago.

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 Ambassador Stoessel reports that on a recent trip to Siberia, he found the food situation considerably worse than had been reported during the past winter. Embassy officials saw long lines in Khabarovsk, and some jostling by shoppers trying to buy fatty and unappetizing pork. There was evidence of rationing in Irkutsk where "anxious" shoppers in long lines held coupons. In these cities, frozen fish seems to be substituted for meat. Vegetable supplies were largely adequate, but selections were limited.





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ROMANIA-USSR

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[REDACTED] //In a lengthy speech to a Romanian group on Wednesday, President Ceausescu attempted to placate Moscow while refusing to modify Romania's independent course.//

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[REDACTED] //Ceausescu's remarks suggest Bucharest has reached at least a tactical accommodation with Moscow on the most immediate irritant in Soviet-Romanian relations--preparations for the European communist conference. He indicated that the meeting could be held at any moment but for the benefit of Romania's independent friends, he stressed that it must permit free discussion of any new differences.//

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[REDACTED] //In a clear concession, Ceausescu declared that Romania has no territorial or other disputes with the Soviet Union or with other neighboring states. This was a reference to historical disputes over the Dobrudja, Transylvania, and Bessarabia regions which have been prominent in recent nationalist campaigns. He also made some amicable gestures toward the Soviets by citing Romanian fealty to other communist countries, the Warsaw Pact, and CEMA.//

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[REDACTED] //Most of Ceausescu's speech, however, was a firm defense of Romania's independent course. Ceausescu maintained that there can be no "leading center" in the world communist

movement, and said that defense of national interests is the sine qua non of "proletarian internationalism." He added that each country has the "sacred right" to determine its own national communist course. [REDACTED]

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PORTUGAL

[REDACTED] Portuguese Socialist leaders, who expect to head the new government after the presidential elections on June 27, are increasingly concerned that the Communists will use their influence with labor to sabotage the tough austerity measures that will be needed to deal with Portugal's serious economic problems.

[REDACTED] The Socialists are attempting to challenge the dominant position of the Communists in labor, but the Communists still control most of the important unions and claim twice as many union supporters as the Socialists.

[REDACTED] The Socialists have stepped up organizational activity and had hoped to hold a national labor congress--to which all unions would be invited--for the purpose of creating a new organization to replace the Communist-controlled central labor confederation.

[REDACTED] The better-organized Communists, however, are insisting on weighted voting at the congress, with each union allotted votes based on its membership. The Socialists, whose influence is strongest in the smaller white collar unions, prefer that each union have one vote.

[REDACTED] the Socialists do not have the full time labor organizers or the trained cadres to compete with the Communists. The Socialists are also unable to compete with the Communists in organizing and motivating their supporters.

[REDACTED] Socialist leaders are reconsidering their strategy and may wait to take on the Communists until they are more effectively organized. [REDACTED]

PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN

25X1 [] Pakistani Prime Minister Bhutto is scheduled to begin several days of talks with President Daoud in Afghanistan on Monday. Bhutto's visit reflects recent improvement in Pakistani-Afghan relations, which had worsened three years ago when Daoud came to power and sharply stepped up Afghan agitation on the "Pushtunistan" territorial dispute between the two countries.

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25X1 [] Daoud presumably would like to discuss Pushtunistan. Pakistan, however, rejects Daoud's demand that its Pushtun- and Baluchi-inhabited border provinces be granted autonomy or self-determination and regards the issue as non-negotiable.

25X1 [] Daoud and Bhutto seem unlikely to conclude an agreement on the Pushtunistan issue at their meeting, and they may concentrate on less contentious issues, such as increasing trade and travel or restoring direct air links between the two countries.

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25X1 [] The government-controlled media in both countries appear to be trying to establish a favorable climate for the talks.

25X1 [] The possibility remains, however, that Daoud--who has
long held militant views on the Pushtunistan question, will
raise it in a way that would sour the atmosphere and reduce
chances for agreement on other bilateral issues. []

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

25X1 [] President Joaquin Balaguer has brought stability and
impressive economic growth to the Dominican Republic after the
years of violence and coups that preceeded him.

25X1 [] Since 1966, when Balaguer became president, the gross
national product has increased at an average annual rate of more
than 8 percent. This is well above the average for the rest of
Latin America and substantially higher than in any other Carib-
bean country. The upswing is largely attributable to rapidly
rising private and public investment. US input of some \$400 mil-
lion constitutes about 75 percent of total foreign investment.
Foreign reserves have doubled since 1966.

25X1 [] Balaguer has been able to maintain order and still
permit a fair amount of personal liberty. Non-violent opposition
groups have operated with relatively few restraints. With a few
exceptions, the government exercises no censorship of the media.
The stability of his government, together with growing economic
prosperity, have helped give Balaguer wide popularity; although
government pressures and bribery contributed to his victories
in 1970 and 1974, most observers agree he would have won anyway.

25X1 [] There is some opposition, particularly among students
and intellectuals, who view Balaguer as little better than Ra-
fael Trujillo.

25X1 [] Balaguer was closely associated with Trujillo for more
than 30 years and held a succession of increasingly important
posts. He was figurehead president in 1960 and continued in that
post after Trujillo's assassination in May 1961 until forced out
the following January in a military coup. While in exile, Bala-
guer formed the conservative Reformist Party, which remains his
personal political vehicle.

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[] Returning to the Dominican Republic in 1965, Balaguer, with the support of the military, overwhelmingly won the 1966 presidential election.

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[] The Dominican armed forces remain the key to political control. The military leaders, who are extremely conservative, back Balaguer, but he has also made effective use of military rivalries in maintaining his firm hold on the country. His manipulation of groups headed by Chief of National Police Neit Nivar and Secretary of Interior and Police Enrique Perez y Perez, has kept both too weak to constitute a threat.

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[] There are some indications that Balaguer has decided to groom a successor acceptable to the military. Efforts have been under way to persuade former vice president Augusto Lora, who split with Balaguer in 1969, to return to the fold. Lora has publicly defended Balaguer's economic policies and may be preparing to rejoin the Reformist ranks.

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[] Most observers expect that once back in the party, Lora would succeed Balaguer if the President should step down. The military views him as decisive and politically reliable in the Balaguer mold, and his presence in the party leadership would calm concerns about the process of succession. []

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